

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Matsumoto
Appl. No. : Herewith
Filed : April 2, 2004
Title : MEDICAL IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, AND MEDIAL
IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD

Grp./A.U. : Not Yet Assigned

Docket No. : 60,233-005

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Rule 97 and in compliance with Rule 56, Applicant hereby makes of record the items listed on the attached Form PTO/SB08A. Under the provisions set forth whereby the office waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, Attorney for applicant is not submitting a copy of any of the U.S. noted references referred to on the enclosed PTO/SB08A, due to the fact that the above noted application is being filed on April 2, 2004.

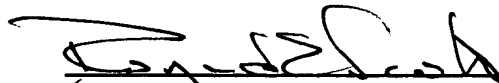
None of these items noted on the PTO/SB08A disclose the inventive concepts claimed in the subject application.

Should there be a fee associated with this document, please charge it to Deposit Account No. 08-2789. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.


April 2, 2004
Date


Raymond E. Scott, Reg. No. 22,981
The Pinehurst Office Center, Suite #101
39400 Woodward Ave.
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-5151
(248) 723-0306

Enclosures:
PTO/SB08

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I hereby certify that the enclosed **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee", Mailing Label No. **EL997489907US** and addressed to **Mail Stop Patent Application**, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on **April 2, 2004**.



Tracy L. Smith

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	Herewith
Filing Date	April 2, 2004
First Named Inventor	Kazuhiko Matsumoto
Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	60,233-005

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 6,424,732	07-23-2002	Shiffman et al	
		US- 6,501,848	12-31-2002	Carroll et al	
		US- 6,628,743	09-30-2003	Drummond et al	
		US- 6,643,533	11-04-2003	Knoplioch et al	
		US- 6,668,083	12-23-2003	Verdonck et al	
		US- 6,678,399	01-13-2004	Doi et al	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 2002-282235	10-02-2002	William et al		
		JP 08-089501	04-09-1996	Kenji et al		

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SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	60,233-005

Sheet 2 of 2

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		STANISLAV L. STOEV, et al., Extracting Regions of Interest Applying a Local Watershed Transformation; University of Tubingen; Oct. 8-13, 2000	

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Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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